El.# 1239

"Extract from Entry from Marquis KIDO's
Diary, 8 December 1941"

At 12.40 a.m. Foreign Minister TOGO telephoned me to
consult about the treatment of the personal telegram from
President Roosevelt to the Emperor, which had been brought by
Ambassador Grew. I advised him to consult the Premier as
regards its diplomatic effect and procedure. I said that as
for a visit to the throne, there would be no need of hesitation
to make one for the Emperor would not mind granting an audience
even at midnight.

I was informed that Foreign Minister TOGO had proceeded
to the palace, so I went to the office at 2.40 a.m. to see him.
When I was going up the Akasaka slope, I saw the rising sun above
a building there. I thought it was symbolic of the destiny of
this country now that we had entered the war against the U.S.A.
and England, the two greatest powers in the world. I closed my
eyes and prayed for the success of our Navy planes making an
attack upon Pearl Harbour at that time.

At 7.30 a.m. I met the Premier, the Chief of the Army
General Staff, and the Chief of the Navy General Staff. I heard
from them great news relative to the success of the surprise
attack upon Hawaii and felt that the Gods had come to our aid.
I saw the Emperor at 11.40 a.m. and talked with him until 12
noon. I was very much impressed by the self-possessed attitude
of the Emperor on this day. The Imperial Proclamation of War
was issued.

記

昭和十六年十二月八日分

十二月八日（月）晴

午前十二時四十分頃終

ヨリ天皇陛下ニ参上ノ取扱ニ下ハ親電ト首相ノ興奮ヨリモ電話ヲ外相ヨリ電話ニテ大使ヨリ米国大統領ノ親電ヲ

午前十二時四十分頃終ヘ外相ヨリ参内ス内外相ノ協議ノ結果同上ノ件ナリ意見ヲ述ヘ参内ス

七時十五分上リ坂下ニ於テ外相ト相会ス外相ハ米英ノ二大国ヲ相手ニ大戦争ヲ布告シ今日此ノ大使命ヲ果シ得タルハ七十年ニシテ今ヲ知ル得タルハ七十年ニシテ今ヲ知ル七時ニ至リ七時ニ至リ首相官邸ニ至リ首相会見ス愈々今日ニ入ルナリ之ヲ期シ之ヲ

赤坂見附ノ方ヲ期シ之ヲ

十一番ニシテナカリキ重限ノ大砲敷クラントヨリ
十二番半弾価トヲ学検議門議
三番五ケヲヨリ面ニ十三ヶ所放棄証ス
六番信チ同件大儀ク法警實ニ出應ス